Chapter 159: The Planting of the Mini-World Trees

The Temples of Shadows and Life, already a beacon of divine power and faith, received a new directive through the System:

> "Plant the seeds of the Second World Tree in the temple gardens. Nurture them, and they shall become a source of life and strength for the realms."

The Planting of the Seeds

The monks and priests of the temples obeyed the divine order without hesitation:

1. Distribution of Seeds

Seeds of the Second World Tree, a gift from God of Shadows and Life, Sung Jin-Woo, were distributed to every temple across Earth and other realms where the faith had taken root.

2. Planting Ceremony

Each seed was planted with a sacred ritual performed by the monks and priests, invoking blessings for the growth of the tree.

Worshippers participated, their faith fueling the rapid germination of the seeds.

3. Rapid Growth

The seeds grew at an astonishing rate, drawing resources and mana directly from the Earth and surrounding realms. Within weeks, the saplings transformed into towering mini-World Trees, radiating divine energy.

The Mini-World Trees

The planted trees shared some of the characteristics of the original Second World Tree but were adapted for smaller scales:

1. Mana Absorption and Distribution

Each tree absorbed vast amounts of mana and resources, enhancing the surrounding environment.

The trees purified the land, rejuvenating barren areas and increasing fertility.

2. Bearing Divine Fruits

Within months, the mini-World Trees began to bear fruits, imbued with divine energy.

These fruits birthed heavenly/celestial beings, humanoid folks, dragonfolks, and mythical folks such as centaurs, sphinxes, fairies, and mermaids.

3. Expansion Across Realms

The mini-World Trees were planted not just on Earth but in other realms, solidifying the presence of the God of Shadows and Life's faith in the multiverse.

Impact on the Realms

The planting of the mini-World Trees brought profound changes:

1. Creation of New Life

The creatures born from the trees became devoted followers of Sung Jin-Woo, serving as warriors, workers, and caretakers for the temples.

2. Strengthening Faith

The divine fruits and their miraculous creations strengthened the faith of the worshippers, leading to the establishment of more temples and the rapid spread of the religion.

3. Environmental and Economic Growth

The presence of the trees boosted the mana concentration of their surroundings, making them ideal locations for hunters to train and for civilizations to thrive.

4. Cross-Realm Unification

The planting of these trees in various realms created a network of mana-rich sanctuaries, connecting the multiverse under the domain of the God of Shadows and Life.

Challenges and Balance

Despite their benefits, the mini-World Trees required careful management:

Mana Resource Regulation: The rapid mana absorption risked destabilizing some areas, requiring priests to monitor and balance the trees' growth.

Security: The divine fruits and creatures attracted envious forces, prompting the deployment of shadow guardians to protect the temples.

Through the spread of the mini-World Trees, Sung Jin-Woo’s influence grew exponentially, making him not only the God of Shadows and Life but also the God of Creation and Abundance.